

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

Confirmation No.: 9219

Application No.: 09/988,954

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: November 21, 2001

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-006-11

For: TISSUE STABILIZATION METHOD (as
amended)

Examiner: P. Prebilic

10/18/03

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Introductory Comments

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 12, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file for the above-identified application. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Amendment begins on a separate sheet. Claims 62-70, 72-95, 97-102, and 107-115 remain in this application and are submitted for the Examiner's review and consideration. Claims 62, 63, 67, 69, 70, and 76 are currently amended, and claims 107-115 are new. Claims 71, 96, and 103-106 are canceled while claims 64-66, 68, 72-75, 77-95, and 97-102 remain withdrawn. Applicant believes these amendments serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.

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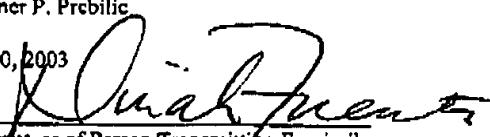
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**PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION CONCERNING THE BELOW
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In re application of: P. Bonutti

Confirmation No.: 9219

Application No.: 09/988,954

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Examiner: P. PREBILIC

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amended)

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